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### UM's Montana Entrepreneurship Center marks first anniversary with open house

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#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM's Montana Entrepreneurship Center marks first anniversary with open house" (1991). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 12439.

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# University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

Office of News and Publications  
Missoula, MT 59812  
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October 2, 1991

### UM'S MONTANA ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER MARKS FIRST ANNIVERSARY WITH OPEN HOUSE

MISSOULA --

The Montana Entrepreneurship Center, headquartered at The University of Montana, will celebrate the accomplishments of its first year during an anniversary open house Friday, Oct. 11.

The public is invited to join the celebration from 3 to 5 p.m. in McGill Hall 204. The event is designed to help people from all areas of economic development meet, exchange ideas and form a bond to rise to the economic challenges and opportunities facing Montana businesses.

The theme of the open house will be establishing and solidifying networks of business assistance and economic development people from throughout Montana.

In its first year, the center has responded to more than 900 requests for assistance, helping entrepreneurs locate resources, start businesses, expand existing ventures and relocate successful businesses to Montana. Center staff use an extensive database to link clients with more than 2,500 public, private and university resources that provide technical assistance, capital and expertise.

At the open house, center staff will announce innovative new services for the coming year, including an electronic calendar of business events throughout the state and region. Staff members will

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demonstrate how assistance providers can access the center's database and business calendar using a computer modem.

The entrepreneurship center, one of the Montana University System's five Centers of Excellence, has branch offices at Montana State University and Eastern Montana College.

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Contact: MEC Executive Director Kay Lutz-Ritzheimer, 243-4009.

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